

# SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

105th Congress

1st Session

Vote No. 201

July 24, 1997, 10:30 am

Page S-7995 Temp. Record

## AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS/Final Passage

**SUBJECT:** Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1998 . . . S. 1033.  
Final passage, as amended.

**ACTION: BILL PASSED, 99-0**

**SYNOPSIS:** As passed, S. 1033, the Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1998, will provide \$50.685 billion in new budget authority, 73 percent of which will be for mandatory spending programs and 75 percent of which will be for food welfare programs (both mandatory and discretionary). Total funding will be \$3.2 billion less than provided in fiscal year 1997. Details are provided below.

- Domestic food programs, \$38.146 billion, including: \$26.051 billion for food stamps (\$1 billion of that amount will be available as a contingency reserve; total food stamp funding declined as a result of reforms enacted in the Welfare Reform Bill), \$3.928 billion for the Women, Infants, and Children Program (\$121.8 million more than provided in fiscal year 1997); and \$7.769 billion for child nutrition programs (see vote No. 200 for related debate);

- Agriculture programs, \$6.921 billion, including: \$1.584 million for the Crop Insurance Corporation Fund; \$850 million for Cooperative State Research; \$783.5 million for the Commodity Credit Corporation; \$738 million for Agricultural Research Service projects (numerous projects are earmarked); \$590.6 million for Food Safety and Inspection (an increase of \$17 million, which will allow for implementation of the new hazard analysis and critical point (HCCP) meat and poultry inspection system); and \$441.3 million for Animal and Plant Inspection; additionally, \$2.941 billion in loan authority will be provided;

- National Resource Conservation Service, \$826.9 million;

- Rural development programs, \$2.079 billion; additionally, \$5.295 billion in loan authority will be provided, with \$3.5 billion of that amount for rural housing;

- International food programs, \$1.730 billion; and

(See other side)

YEAS (99)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (1)	
Republican (55 or 100%)		Democrats (44 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (1)
Abraham	Hutchinson	Akaka	Inouye				Kennedy- <sup>2AY</sup>
Allard	Hutchison	Baucus	Johnson				
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Biden	Kerrey				
Bennett	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kerry				
Bond	Kempthorne	Boxer	Kohl				
Brownback	Kyl	Breaux	Landrieu				
Burns	Lott	Bryan	Lautenberg				
Campbell	Lugar	Bumpers	Leahy				
Chafee	Mack	Byrd	Levin				
Coats	McCain	Cleland	Lieberman				
Cochran	McConnell	Conrad	Mikulski				
Collins	Murkowski	Daschle	Moseley-Braun				
Coverdell	Nickles	Dodd	Moynihan				
Craig	Roberts	Dorgan	Murray				
D'Amato	Roth	Durbin	Reed				
DeWine	Santorum	Feingold	Reid				
Domenici	Sessions	Feinstein	Robb				
Enzi	Shelby	Ford	Rockefeller				
Faircloth	Smith, Bob	Glenn	Sarbanes				
Frist	Smith, Gordon	Graham	Torricelli				
Gorton	Snowe	Harkin	Wellstone				
Gramm	Specter	Hollings	Wyden				
Grams	Stevens						
Grassley	Thomas						
Gregg	Thompson						
Hagel	Thurmond						
Hatch	Warner						
Helms							

### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

### SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea  
AN—Announced Nay  
PY—Paired Yea  
PN—Paired Nay

Compiled and written by the staff of the Republican Policy Committee—Larry E. Craig, Chairman

- Related agencies, \$981 million, including \$913.1 million for the Food and Drug Administration and \$60.1 million for the Commodities Futures Trading Commission.

Other provisions include the following:

- the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) will continue through FY 2002; enrollment will be limited to 36.4 million acres;
- the Wetlands Reserve Program will be reauthorized through FY 2002; enrollment will be limited to 975,000 acres;
- the Market Access Program will receive \$90 million (see vote No. 199 for related debate);
- \$4.9 million will be given to the Food and Drug Administration for its initiative to reduce under-age tobacco use (see vote Nos. 197-198 for related debate);
- \$202 million will be appropriated to pay the sales commissions of private-sector crop insurance agents (this funding will be offset by cutting the Export Enhancement Program to \$150 million; this funding for commissions was mandatory spending prior to fiscal year 1998);
- the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will prepare and submit by December 31, 1997, an analysis of the economic effects of the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact, particularly its effects on low-income Americans; and
- the U.S. Agency for International Development will be required to give at least as much food assistance to Haitian orphanages as it gave in fiscal year 1997 (that assistance is paid for by appropriations from this bill under Public Law 480).

**Those favoring final passage** contended:

This bill is within budget constraints. Funding in many worthwhile programs had to be cut in order to fund greater priorities. Still, the job would have been much more difficult if the welfare reform bill and the FAIR (Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform) Act had not been passed last year, both of which resulted in significant savings. The Food and Drug Administration, the WIC Program, and a few other areas will receive greater funding, but most other areas will get less than they did last year. The bill was carefully crafted to address the highest priorities of Senators on both sides of the aisle, both on food welfare programs and on agriculture. We are confident that it will meet with the approval of a majority of our colleagues.

**While favoring final passage**, some Senators expressed the following reservations:

This agriculture appropriations bill is full of pork. It does not have a few earmarks, or a few dozen earmarks--it literally has hundreds of extremely specific spending items listed in its report language. For instance, the bill will provide \$47.5 million for 121 "special" research grants; all but six of those projects were unrequested (though we are not saying that we favor the Administration requesting funding for specific projects) and every penny of that amount must be spent at certain locations in certain States. There is even a new type of earmark, which is to provide funding to add additional personnel at specific locations. For instance, the report states that \$200,000 will be spent to add quarantine inspectors at Hawaiian facilities. It is bad enough for Members to try to get funding for projects in their States instead of letting agencies decide which projects to fund based on merit; now our colleagues even want to get involved in staffing decisions at particular projects. We approve of the frugality and priorities of this bill overall, but we strongly object to the earmarks that it contains.

**No arguments were expressed in opposition to final passage.**